

CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

1 through 25 (cancelled)

26. (currently amended) A composite body, comprising:

a carrier, said carrier ~~consisting essentially of~~ comprising at least one of a natural thermoplastic polymer, a natural thermoelastic polymer, and a polymer blend of at least one of a natural thermoplastic polymer and a natural thermoelastic polymer with at least one of a synthetic thermoplastic and a synthetic thermoelastic polymer; and
at least two decorative layers ~~cooperating with~~ bonded to said carrier without the use of glue, said decorative layers made from a natural material, said decorative layers partially covering or overlapping each other.

27. (currently amended) The composite body of claim 26, wherein said carrier comprises a natural polymer ~~on the basis of~~ based on lignin.

28. (currently amended) The composite body of claim 26, wherein said carrier ~~contains~~ comprises at least one of polyolefine, polyamide, polyester, polyacetate, polycarbonate, polyurethane, vinylpolymer and a copolymer of the preceding.

29. (currently amended) The composite body of claim 28, wherein said carrier comprises a natural polymer based on ~~the basis of~~ lignin.

30. (previously presented) The composite body of claim 26, wherein said carrier further comprises natural fiber reinforcement.
31. (previously presented) The composite body of claim 30, wherein said natural fiber reinforcement comprises at least one of hemp, cellulose and wood fibers.
32. (previously presented) The composite body of claim 26, wherein at least one decorative layer comprises a wooden veneer.
33. (previously presented) The composite body of claim 26, wherein at least one decorative layer comprises natural fibers selected from the group consisting of a fleece, an interlacing, a woven fabric, a knitted fabric, and a plaited material.
34. (previously presented) The composite body of claim 32, wherein at least one of a fleece, an interlacing, a woven fabric, a knitted fabric and a plaited material is disposed between said carrier and said wooden veneer.
35. (previously presented) The composite body of claim 34, wherein said at least one of said fleece, said interlacing, said woven fabric, said knitted fabric, and said plaited material consists essentially of natural fibers.
36. (previously presented) The composite body of claim 35, wherein said natural fibers are hemp fibers.

4

37. (previously presented) A method for using the composite body of claim 26, the method comprising the step of covering floors therewith.
38. (previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein said floor covering is a parquet floor covering.
39. (previously presented) A method for using the composite body of claim 26, the method comprising paneling at least one of walls and ceilings therewith.
40. (previously presented) A method for using the composite body of claim 26, the method comprising inlaying works therewith.
41. (previously presented) The method of claim 40, wherein said inlaid works comprise tarsia.
42. (previously presented) The method of claim 40, wherein said inlaid works comprise visible sides of at least one of furniture, musical instruments, housings, interior paneling and fittings of automotive vehicles.
43. (currently amended) A method for producing the composite body of claim 26, the method comprising the steps of:
 - a) preparing a carrier, said carrier consisting essentially of at least one of a natural ~~theroplastic~~ thermoplastic polymer, a natural thermoelastic polymer, and a polymer blend of at

5

least one of a natural thermoplastic polymer and a natural thermoelastic polymer with at least one of a synthetic thermoplastic and a synthetic thermoelastic polymer;
b) arranging a plurality of decorative layers to partially overlap or cover one another; and
c) pressing, at increased pressure and temperature, said decorative layers into said carrier following step b) to bond said decorative layers to said carrier without the use of glue.

44. (previously presented) The method of claim 43, wherein said decorative layers are inserted into a hot press, the carrier is disposed thereon, and said decorative layers are pressed together into a surface of said carrier by closing said press.
45. (previously presented) The method of claim 43, wherein a pressing force is between 40 and 400 bar.
46. (previously presented) The method of claim 43, wherein a pressing temperature is between 120 and 180°C.
47. (previously presented) The method of claim 43, wherein a pressing depth of said decorative layers substantially corresponds to a thickness of said decorative layers.
48. (previously presented) The method of claim 43, wherein a pressing depth of said decorative layers is smaller than a thickness thereof.

49. (currently amended) The method of claim 43, wherein ~~several~~ said plurality of decorative layers ~~of different kinds~~ are inserted into a hot press and are pressed together with said carrier.
50. (currently amended) The method of claim 43, wherein, after insertion of at least one decorative layer, a fiber layer is inserted into a hot press and the layers are pressed together with said carrier, wherein said fiber layer is disposed between said at least one decorative layer and said carrier.
51. (previously presented) The method of claim 43, further comprising embossing a surface structure on at least one decorative layer.
52. (previously presented) The method of claim 43, wherein said carrier is mixed with natural reinforcing fibers.
53. (previously presented) The method of claim 52, wherein said natural reinforcing fibers are selected from the group consisting of hemp, cellulose, and wood fibers.